

City of Binghamton
Commission on Architecture and Urban Design
24 June 2014
Minutes

DRAFT

Date: 24 June 2014
Location: PHCD Conference Room, 4th Floor City Hall
Members Present: Jeff Smith, Chair
Mike Haas
Peter Klosky
John Darrow
Mike Atchie
Members Absent: Sean Massey
Larry Borelli
Others Present: H. Peter L'Orange – Historic Preservation Planner
Jennie Skeadas-Sherry, PHCD Director
Joel Boyd – Economic Development
Thomas F. Costello – Supervisor of Building Construction

The meeting was called to order at approximately 12:05 PM.

The minutes from the 27 May 2014 regular meeting and the 4 June 2014 special meeting were reviewed. Mr. Darrow made a motion to approve the minutes as submitted for the 27 May 2014 meeting; it was seconded by Mr. Haas. There was no further discussion. The motion was carried 5-0-0; the minutes were approved as submitted. Mr. Darrow made a motion to approve the minutes as submitted for the 4 June 2014 special meeting; it was seconded by Mr. Haas. There was no further discussion. The motion was carried 4-0-1, with Mr. Smith abstaining as he was not at the 4 June 2014 special meeting; the minutes were approved as submitted.

Items Heard:

6 Chestnut Street – Window: The Applicant presented this case. The Applicant proposed to remove an existing window and close up the opening. The Applicant would then install a new window in another location around the corner from the existing window. The Applicant would remove the existing asbestos cement shingles from a short wall on the rear porch to the patch the wall where the existing window was removed. The Applicant would then install new cement shingles on the rear porch wall; the new shingles would be of a slightly different size, so the Applicant felt it would be better to do one entire wall in order to better hide the difference. Mr. Darrow made a motion to approve the project with the conditions that the Applicant match the run and alignment of the existing shingles as closely as possible, that the Applicant reuse or recreate the trim around the existing windows for use around the new window, and that the Applicant save the existing window for reuse as it is likely original to the house and in good condition; the motion was seconded by Mr. Atchie. There was no further discussion. The motion was carried 5-0-0; the project was APPROVED with conditions.

34 Chenango Street – Awnings: Staff presented this case. The Applicant proposed to install new awnings above the entrances on the south façade of the building. Both awnings would use a red and tan striped fabric to match the front façade of the building. Mr. Darrow made a motion to approve the awnings with the conditions that the Applicant mount the awning frames into the mortar and not the brick and that all signage will have to come back to the Commission for review and approval; it was seconded by Mr. Klosky. There was no further discussion. The motion was passed 5-0-0; the project was APPROVED with conditions.

60 Henry Street – Storefront: Staff presented this case. The Applicant proposed to install a new storefront in this space, to replace the existing blank plywood. The proposed storefront was designed to be based on the original storefront of the building, as depicted in photographs. Mr. Darrow made a motion to approve the project with the conditions that the Applicant remove the abandoned sign cabinet at the northeast corner of the building, that the Applicant retain the existing fallout shelter sign as an interesting piece of history, and that any future lighting or signage be brought back before the Commission for review and approval; it was seconded by Mr. Klosky. There was no further discussion. The motion was carried 5-0-0; the project as APPROVED with conditions.

183-185 Water Street – Public Art Advisory Opinion: The Applicants presented this item. The Applicants proposed to carry out a series of murals and public art displays on the interior of the Water Street parking ramp. The Commission made a few suggestions, and then unanimously voted to recommend that the Mayor approve the project.

Court Street Bridge – Public Art Advisory Opinion: The Applicant presented this item. The Applicant proposed to expand the glass tile mosaic work at the Court Street Bridge. The Applicant stated that they would also modify the existing mirror tiles facing Court Street to make them look more like frosted glass in order to prevent reflecting sunlight into the eyes of drivers. The Commission unanimously voted to recommend that the Mayor approve the project.

Columbus Park – Public Art Advisory Opinion: The Applicant presented this item. The Applicant proposed to work with the Parks Department to create a tile mosaic on the front of the retaining wall at Columbus Park. The Commission suggested working with the Urban League and local youth in the creation of the project, and then unanimously voted to recommend that the Mayor approve the project.

There was no further business.

The meeting adjourned at approximately 1:05 PM.

The next regularly scheduled meeting of the Commission on Architecture and Urban Design is scheduled for Tuesday, 29 July 2014.